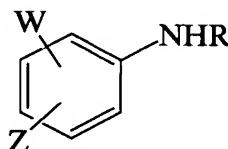


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A process for the direct synthesis of mono-N-substituted anilines having the general formula (I)



(I)

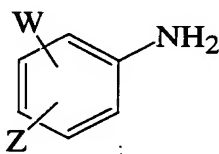
5 wherein

R indicates a linear or branched saturated carbon chain, preferably comprising 1 to 7 carbon atoms, an unsaturated carbon chain with the double carbon-carbon link also in the allyl position (2,3) with respect to the nitrogen atom of the amines (I), comprising 3 to 7 carbon atoms, or a benzyl group or a benzyl group substituted at the aromatic ring with methyl and ethyl radicals;

W is selected from the group consisting of -H, -OH, -CH₂OH, -COOH and -CONH₂ and can be ortho, meta or para with respect to the carbon atom to which the nitrogen atom is attached;

15 Z is selected from the group consisting of -H, -halogen, -alkyl, -alkoxy, -NO₂ and -CN; provided that W and Z are not simultaneously H,

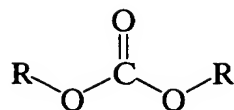
said process comprising the step of reacting, in the presence of a solvent, a compound having the general formula (II):



(II)

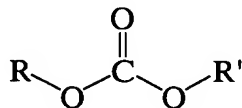
20 wherein W and Z are as defined above,

with an organic carbonate selected from the group consisting of compounds having the general formula (III)



(III)

wherein R is as defined above,
and compounds of general formula (IV)



(IV)

- 5 wherein R' is selected from the group consisting of $\text{CH}_3(\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2)_n$ -
with $n \geq 2$ and branched or linear alkyl radicals that have at least three
carbon atoms;

in the presence of a faujasite selected from the group comprising X-
faujasite exchanged with alkaline metals and Y- faujasite exchanged with
10 alkaline metals.

2. The process according to claim 1, wherein the organic carbonate has
the general formula (III).

3. The process according to claim 1, wherein the organic carbonate has
the general formula (IV).

- 15 4. The process according to claim 1, wherein the radical R is selected
from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, allyl and benzyl.

5. The process according to claim 1, wherein said faujasite is present in
a ratio between 1:10 and 3:1 with respect to the compound having the
formula (I).

- 20 6. The process according to claim 5, wherein said faujasite is present in
a ratio between 1:1.5 and 1:1 with respect to the compound having the
formula (I).

7. The process according to claim 1, wherein said faujasite is Y-
faujasite exchanged with sodium.

- 25 8. The process according to claim 1, wherein said organic carbonate is

dimethyl carbonate.

9. The process according to claim 1, wherein said organic carbonate is diethyl carbonate.

10. The process according to claim 1, wherein said organic carbonate is
5 diallyl carbonate.

11. The process according to claim 1, wherein said organic carbonate is dibenzyl carbonate.

12. The process according to claim 1, wherein said organic carbonate is 2-(2-methoxyethoxy)ethyl-methylcarbonate.

10 13. The process according to claim 1, wherein said organic carbonate is 2-(2-methoxyethoxy)ethyl-ethylcarbonate.

14. The process according to claim 1, wherein the organic carbonate is present in a ratio between 10:1 and 50:1 with respect to the compound having the formula (I).

15 15. The process according to claim 1, wherein said step is performed at a temperature between 70°C and 190°C.

16. The process according to claim 15, wherein said temperature is between 90°C and 150°C.

17. The process according to claim 8, wherein said step is performed at
20 a temperature between 70°C and 90°C.

18. The process according to claim 9, wherein said step is performed at a temperature between 70°C and 130°C.

19. The process according to claim 10, wherein said step is performed at a temperature between 130°C and 190°C.

25 20. The process according to claim 11, wherein said step is performed at a temperature between 130°C and 190°C.

21. The process according to claim 1, wherein said step is performed at atmospheric pressure.

22. The process according to claim 1, wherein said step is performed in
30 an autoclave.

23. The process according to claim 1, wherein said step is performed in atmosphere that is modified by adding an inert gas selected from the group consisting of nitrogen and argon.

24. The process according to claim 1, wherein said solvent is selected
5 from the group consisting of:
said organic carbonate,
a co-solvent, and
mixtures thereof.

25. The process according to claim 24, wherein said co-solvent is
10 selected from the group consisting of 1,2-dimethoxyethane, triethylene glycol dimethyl ether, and mixtures thereof.

26. The process according to claim 24, wherein said solvent is a mixture of said organic carbonate and of a co-solvent and said co-solvent is preferably present in a ratio comprised between 1:1 and 5:1 with respect to
15 the organic carbonate.

27. The use of faujasites exchanged with alkaline metals to catalyze reactions for mono-N-substitution of functionalized anilines.

28. The use according to claim 27, wherein said faujasite is NaY-faujasite.